1	IN THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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3	
4	IN RE: INVESTIGATION:
5	Case No. 2003-00433 AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE GAS AND ELECTRIC RATES,
6	TERMS, AND CONDITIONS OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
7	ELECTRIC COMPANI
8	and
9	
10	Case No. 2003-00434 AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE ELECTRIC RATES, TERMS, AND
11	CONDITIONS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY
12	
13	* * *
14	
15	SWORN STATEMENT
16	OF
17	ROBERT WATT
18	JULY 28, 2005
19 20	
21	ELLEN L. COULTER, RPR
22	Coulter Reporting, LLC 101 East Kentucky Street
23	Suite 200 Louisville, Kentucky 40203
24	(502) 582-1627 FAX: (502) 587-6299
25	E-MAIL: CoulterLLC@bellsouth.net

## APPEARANCES SPECIAL GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: JONATHAN D. GOLDBERG Goldberg & Simpson 3000 National City Tower 101 South Fifth Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202 FOR THE WITNESS: DAVID KAPLAN Frost, Brown, Todd, LLC 3200 Aegon Center 400 West Market Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202

1 The sworn statement of ROBERT WATT, 2 taken in the offices of Goldberg & Simpson, 3 3000 National City Tower, 101 South Fifth Street, 4 Louisville, Kentucky, on Thursday, the 28th day of 5 July, 2005, at approximately 1:05 p.m. 6 7 EXAMINATION 8 9 10 BY MR. GOLDBERG: Could you state your full name for me. 11 Q. 12 Α. Robert Watt. And your business address? 13 Q. 300 West Vine Street, Suite 2100, Α. 14 Lexington, 40507. 15 All right, sir. And are you a lawyer? 16 0. Yes. 17 Α. Okay. Who are you a lawyer with? 18 Ο. Stoll, Keenon & Park. 19 Α. All right, sir. Are you a -- or do 20 Q. you practice in the area of public utility law? 21 22 Α. Yes. All right. And how long have you done 23 Q. 24 that? Since 1977. 25 Α.

```
All right, sir. At Stoll, Keenon &
             Q.
1
2
     Park?
                    Yes.
3
             Α.
                    Okay. Is KU, Kentucky Utilities, one
             0.
 4
     of your clients?
5
                    Yes.
             Α.
 6
                    And how long have they been one of
7
             0.
     your clients?
8
                    They've been a client of my firm for
             Α.
 9
     years, since the '40s, probably. I have actively
10
     performed services in the regulatory area for KU
11
     probably for only about the last two or three years.
12
                    Okay. What type of services did you
13
             0.
     perform for KU before then?
14
                    The first regulatory representation
15
             Α.
     that I had with Kentucky Utilities was the rate case
16
     which was concluded in 2004. We began working on it
17
     I guess in 2002, so that's when I started working for
18
     KU.
19
                    All right. What kind of work did you
20
             Ο.
     do before that, or did you do public utility type
21
     work but just not for KU?
22
                    That's correct.
23
             Α.
                    All right. Fair enough. Is there a
24
             Q.
     reason you began in 2002 to work for KU?
25
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```
Well, I'll speculate a little bit for
             Α.
1
2
     you.
                    Yes, sir.
 3
             Q.
                    I was asked to represent LG&E in a gas
 4
             Α.
     rate case that began in 1999, and that was concluded
5
               When the company decided to file a combined
 6
     in 2000.
     gas and electric rate case, they asked me to
 7
     represent LG&E in connection with really the gas
 8
     aspect of it. As things went along during the course
 9
     of the representation, I really formed, with some
10
     lawyers from Ogden, Newell & Welch, sort of into just
11
     a trial team, if you will, and we all shared duties
12
     for both companies. So that's really how it came
13
     about with KU.
14
                    All right, sir. So that I understand
15
             0.
     it, with regard to the two rate cases at issue -- and
16
     the numbers are 2003-00433, commonly referred to as
17
     the LG&E case, and 2003-00434, the KU case -- you
18
     were part of the team and thus you worked on both?
19
     Is that what you're communicating?
20
21
             Α.
                    Yes.
                    Okay. Did you have a specific
22
             0.
     assigned task?
23
                    Well, as I said, when it started, my
24
             Α.
     assignment was to devote most of my attention to the
25
```

gas rates of Louisville Gas & Electric Company. 1 as the progress of the case went along, it became 2 apparent that we all had to pitch in on all aspects 3 4 of it, and we all did. All right, sir. When were you first 5 Ο. asked to participate as a part of the team? 6 I think -- I think it was in -- let's 7 It was in the spring of 2003. 8 All right, sir. Do you have a 9 Q. recollection of that conversation? 10 A lawyer, who is no longer with 11 Louisville Gas & Electric, by the name of Linda 12 13 Portasik contacted me and asked me to represent the company in the rate case. 14 Okay. Now, do you have a recognition 15 of when the notice to file a rate case was actually 16 17 filed? It was the end of November, first of Α. 18 December of '03. 19 Okay. And were you asked to 20 participate in a matter involving North American 21 22 Stainless? I did not really work on the North 23 Α. American Stainless matter, no. 24 Okay. Prior to the filing of the 25 Q.

notice, had you begun preparing with regard to the 1 rate cases? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Okay. What kind of activity had you ο. 4 5 engaged in? We engaged in an analysis of issues. 6 Α. We engaged in an analysis of the calculations of 7 revenue requirements. Depreciation was an issue in 8 the case, and we worked on an analysis of new 9 depreciation schedules. We worked with witnesses in 10 the development of testimony. Of course, worked on 11 drafting the application. It's the usual range of 12 activities that are necessary to prepare a rate case 13 14 for filing. All right, sir. Had you prepared 15 Q. other rate cases for filing? 16 17 Α. Yes. Q. Okay. How many, the best you can 18 More than five? recollect? 19 Oh, yeah. Yeah. 20 Α. Fair enough. Now, with regard to your 21 0. work -- and let's use the notice of filing date in 22 November of 2003. Did you have -- did you at any 23 time contact employees of the Public Service 24 Commission in your work? 25

```
Α.
                     No.
 1
                     Okay. And I trust that you've had
 2
             0.
     some interaction through the years with members of
 3
     the Public Service Commission?
 4
 5
             Α.
                     Yes.
                     Okay. I'm going to ask you some names
 6
             Ο.
     specifically and get you to communicate with me.
 7
     you familiar with Richard Raff?
 8
 9
             Α.
                     Yes.
                     Okay. Prior to notice date, end of
10
             ο.
     November 2003, did you have any conversations with
11
     Mr. Raff about the rates?
12
13
             Α.
                     Oh, no, I did not.
                     About the rate cases.
14
             Q.
             Α.
                     No.
15
                     Okay. Are you familiar with Mr. Isaac
16
             Q.
     Scott?
17
             Α.
                     Yes.
18
                     Okay. Prior to the filing, did you
19
             Q.
     have any -- or the notice, rather, did you have any
20
     conversations with Isaac Scott about the two rate
21
22
     cases?
23
             Α.
                     No.
                     Okay. Jeff Shaw, are you familiar
24
             Q.
25
     with him?
```

1 Α. Yes. 2 Did you have any conversations Q. Okay. 3 with Mr. Jeff Shaw prior to the notice of filing? Ά. No. 4 5 0. Okay. 6 Jon, in these questions I'm assuming Α. 7 that you're asking me about did I have any 8 conversations about the subject of the rate cases. Yes, that's correct. 9 Q. Because I have in connection with 10 Α. 11 other matters with the commission. 12 Ο. I understand that. And I -- my 13 inquiry is always about the rate cases, Mr. Watt. 14 don't want to go beyond that because that's not the 15 scope of the engagement. But I would in this 16 question -- period, if you had procedural 17 discussions, please include those in your response. 18 Again, about the rate cases? Α. 19 Yes, sir. Ο. 20 I will. Α. 21 Q. Okay. And I'm assuming your prior 22 answers that you had no conversation prior to notice 23 of filing, you don't want to change that. 24 Α. Those answers are correct. 25 All right, sir. Do you know Andrea Q.

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Edwards?
 1
 2
              Α.
                     No.
 3
                     Do you know Faud Sharifi?
              Q.
              Α.
                     Yes.
 4
 5
                     Okay. Did you talk to Mr. Sharifi
              Q.
 6
     about the two rate cases prior to notice of filing?
 7
                     No.
              Α.
              Q.
                     Do you know Martha Morton?
 8
 9
              Α.
                     No.
10
                     Okay. Now, let me ask you the same
              Q.
11
     set of questions with regard to the various
12
     commissioners. Do you know Marty Huelsman?
13
             Α.
                     Yes.
14
                     Okay. Did you talk to Marty Huelsman
             0.
15
     about the rate cases prior to notice of filing?
16
             Α.
                     No.
17
             Q.
                    Okay. Same question with regard to
18
     Gary Gillis.
19
                     I do know him, but I had no
             Α.
20
     conversations with him prior to the filing of the
21
     rate -- of the notice of the rate cases.
22
             Q.
                    All right, sir. How about Chairman
     Mark David Goss?
23
24
                     I do know Mark David Goss, but I had
25
     no conversations with him about the rate cases.
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- Q. And as of that point in time, I do not think he was a member of the commission.
  - A. That's correct.

1.5

- Q. Okay. All right. Now, let me focus time frame again. And after the notice of filing, what did you do with regard to the rate case?
- A. Well, there was a very active period of preparing the filings. These were the final stages of the preparation. And most of the work that I did was in the drafting and the editing of the papers that we filed.
  - Q. The petition?
- A. The applications, as well as the prepared testimony that was filed with them.
- Q. Okay. I presume during that period of time -- and again, I'm -- notice of filing all the way through first date of hearing, which would be April 28th, 2004. Can you think of anything else you did besides what you've already told me with regard to the rate cases?
- A. Well, after the rate cases were filed until the hearing, I participated in the preparation of responses to data requests and in the preparation of data requests that we submitted to witnesses for the interveners. In addition, I participated in the

preparation of rebuttal testimony. I participated in the preparation of witnesses for their testimony. Of course, I researched issues -- legal issues that required research. And, frankly, I can't think of any specific issues now, but I do remember doing research on the rate case.

of course, I participated in strategy meetings about positions to take. I participated in what I call workshop meetings to throw ideas on the table and make sure that we were considering and addressing all the issues that were necessary to be addressed in order to properly present the rate cases. It was what I recognize as fairly typical activities in order to get very significant rate applications ready for hearing.

- Q. All right, sir. Between the time of the notice of filing and the actual first date of hearing, April 28, 2004 --
  - A. Let me mention something to you.
  - Q. Yes, sir.

- A. I think April 28th was a -- sort of a prehearing conference. The first day of the actual hearing was May the 4th, I want to say.
- Q. That's correct. But what I was looking for is the first time all parties,

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1
     interveners --
 2
                     Okay.
             Α.
                     -- LG&E/KU and Public Service
 3
             Ο.
     Commission staff were all together --
 4
                     That would be correct.
             Α.
 5
                     -- is April 28, 2004. Can you agree
 6
             0.
 7
     with that date?
             Α.
                     Yes.
 8
                     Fair enough.
 9
             Q.
                     I will say to you, however, I was not
10
             Α.
     in that conference, but I do know that it occurred.
11
                     All right, sir. You're like most
12
             Ο.
     lawyers, Mr. Watt. You're anticipating the
13
14
     questions.
                    I'm sorry. I tell my witnesses not to
             Α.
1.5
16
     do that.
                     I thought you'd like me to point it
17
             Q.
                  It is a statement. It's not a
18
     out to you.
19
     deposition.
20
             Α.
                     Okay.
21
             Q.
                     But it would be helpful if we process
22
     it that way.
23
                     I apologize.
             Α.
24
                     That's all right. That's all right.
             Q.
25
     It's a normal tendency.
```

1 We're back in time now, and I'm looking at that period between notice of filing and 2 the first day all parties come to the Public Service 3 Commission, April 28, 2004. Did you have any 4 5 conversations with any members of the staff about the rate cases during that period of time, that you 6 7 recall? You know, I don't think I did. 8 reviewed my records very carefully when Mr. Stumbo's 9 10 office submitted the subpoenas to the company, and I did not find any record of any communications with 11 anyone at the Public Service Commission when I 12 13 reviewed those records. Okay. That is the -- any employees, 14 Q. staff members --15 16 Α. That's correct. -- or commission members? 17 Q. 18 Α. That's correct. 19 All right, sir. 0. 20 And again, this is about the subject Α. 21 of the rate case. 22 0. Absolutely. 23 I might have had social contact or 24 something with some of them, but nothing about the 25 LG&E/KU rate cases.

All right. Are you social friends 1 Q. 2 with --3 No. Α. -- any of the people? 4 Ο. No, but we happen sometimes to be in 5 Α. the same places for social events. 6 Fair enough. Let me ask you, then, 7 using that same time period, date of -- notice of 8 filing through April 28, 2004, did you have any 9 conversations with any of the interveners? 10 Yes. I had some conversations with 11 Betsy Blackford, who is in the rate intervention 12 department of the attorney general's office, 13 primarily about discovery issues. 14 Do you know when those would have 15 Ο. occurred? 16 Most of the discovery was in January 17 and February and perhaps early March, so it would 18 have been during those months. I can't tell you 19 specifically when I had the conversations with her, 20 21 though. All right, sir. And when you say 22 "discovery," what are you defining for us? 23 In a rate case at the Public Service 24 Α. 25 Commission, there is a procedural schedule that is

established. And the procedural schedule calls for two rounds of data requests to be served upon the applicant and one round of data request to be served upon the interveners. Prior to the filing of the rate case, the commission serves the data request on the applicants. And what I'm talking about is the serving and responding to those data requests.

- Q. Do I understand correctly you would have been responding to Ms. Blackford about data requests submitted by the attorney general?
  - A. Yes.

- Q. All right. And other than conversation with her, any other conversations with any other interveners?
  - A. I don't recall any.
- Q. Okay. For the record, could you tell us who you believed were the interveners, as best you can recall?
- A. The attorney general intervened.

  KIUC, which is Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, intervened. MHNA, M-H-N-A, POWER, which is all caps.

  Community Action Council intervened. The Kentucky Division of Energy intervened. Kroger intervened.

  Ultimately, North American Stainless became a part of the case, but not by intervention, rather by the

1 consolidation of a proceeding between Kentucky
2 Utilities and North American Stainless.

1.5

- Q. Do you have a recollection of Fort

  Knox having --
- A. Yeah. The Department of Defense was an intervener, yes.
  - Q. All right, sir. I think that you've got all the major groups. Euphemistically I've heard folks refer to MHNA/POWER and others as low income advocates.
    - A. That's what I understood them to be, yes, sir.
    - Q. All right, sir. Now, other than Ms. Blackford, you had no communication with anyone until April 28, 2004 about the rate cases.
    - A. When you mentioned Fort Knox, it reminded me that I may have had a conversation with Fort Knox's counsel, whose name I can't recall. He was a lawyer in an office in Alexandria or Arlington, Virginia, the DC area. And again, it would have been about some ministerial aspect of the case relating either to discovery or perhaps whether they were going to have a witness or something in that nature.
  - Q. Okay. Prior to going to the informal conference of April 28, 2004, what was your

understanding of what was your role to be at the hearings and possible negotiation sessions?

1.5

A. Well, first of all, I really did not participate -- strike really. I did not participate in any settlement negotiations prior to May 4, 2004. So I understood that I didn't have a role in settlement negotiations until we arrived at the commission for the first day of the hearing.

With respect to the conduct of the hearing, my responsibility was to prepare and be responsible for the direct examination of certain of the LG&E/KU witnesses and to prepare to cross-examine certain witnesses for the interveners, which is what I did.

- Q. All right, sir. On April 28th until May the 4th, 2004, am I understanding that you did not participate in any discussions with the -- between LG&E/KU and the interveners?
  - A. That's correct.
- Q. And do I further understand you didn't participate in any discussions during that same period about the rate cases with any staff members or commission members?
  - A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. What was your understanding of

why your role changed on May the 4th?

A. When we -- when the hearing commenced, settlement discussions were -- they had been taking place during the April 28 conference. And then I think there were some conversations between representatives of all of the various parties through the course of the weekend. And those settlement discussions were not concluded, but all the parties felt that they could be fruitful. So once the public comment portion of the hearing was concluded, I think all of the parties asked the commission if we could adjourn the hearing for the purpose of continuing settlement negotiations.

- Q. On May 4th?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Yes, sir.

A. When that occurred, I was part of the trial team, if you will, and we all ended up in that small conference room -- or small hearing room behind the main hearing room at the commission. And the LG&E/KU group was in a conference room that was right across the hall from that. I primarily was in the conference room, and as -- as things developed during the course of that day, it became my responsibility to draft the settlement agreement. So that was

really my major role in the settlement discussions was the drafting of the settlement agreement that ultimately was executed by the parties.

1.3

- Q. Okay. When do you believe you first began drafting a settlement agreement? What time of the day on May the 4th?
- A. I don't think I started on it until early to mid afternoon.
  - Q. All right, sir. Now, did you have an understanding that as of the time you began drafting that certain items were already agreed by the parties?
- A. Well, we had already reached an agreement with Kroger. And I believe that David Brown, who was representing Kroger, and I want to say Kendrick Riggs, who was one of my co-counsel -- Kendrick is from Ogden, Newell & Welch -- on behalf of LG&E and KU, had put together a settlement agreement. I don't remember if it was in final form or not. There was also a settlement agreement that was in the works in connection with -- senior moment -- the earnings sharing mechanism. So those documents were works in progress. And since they were in existence, being a good lawyer, I took those documents and used them as the basis to start working

up a settlement agreement for the rate case.

We wanted to try to get ahead of the curve so as we reached agreements we could insert them into the -- sort of the framework of the agreement, if you will. So that's why I started doing it. I wanted to have some sort of a document started so that as we were working along, we could have something for people to look at and get feedback to us.

- Q. Okay. What was your understanding of the role of the commission during these discussions?
- A. To my knowledge, the commission itself -- I mean, the three commissioners had no goal.
  - Q. All right, sir. How about the staff?
- A. From my observations, the staff appeared to be in a role of -- sort of a dual role. Richard Raff was trying to facilitate the discussions, not necessarily to a particular point, but rather to get the parties talking and to also give the parties input as to the commission staff's view of particular resolutions of issues.

The same -- well, Isaac Scott and Jeff Shaw were also involved. And I thought what they were doing was looking at settlement proposals or

proposed resolutions of issues and giving us feedback as to whether these were things that were acceptable to the staff. They did not engage in negotiations, as I understand negotiations. It was more an oversight activity. When you say "acceptable to the staff," what is your frame of reference? Well, if there were issues that we Α. proposed to resolve in a fashion that was inconsistent with what the staff understood was the precedent or the quidance that the staff should follow, Jeff or Isaac or Richard would let us know that. And there were -- some of those issues did come up. Were they serving the same function Q. with regard to the interveners? Yes. When I say "us," I mean all the Α. parties. Okay. Would you describe their role Ο. as one of mediation? It was close to mediation. There was not the arm twisting that we've come to see in mediation today. But in terms of serving as a qo-between and carrying messages from one group of parties to another group of parties, that was

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occurring primarily with Mr. Raff.

- Q. All right. Did you have an understanding on May the 4th what the position of the attorney general was on rate design as an issue?
- A. The attorney general's position at the start of the 4th -- let me strike that.

Before we ever had any talks, the attorney general's position on rate design was for a rate design that tried to move as much of the rate increase away from residential consumers as the attorney general could reasonably argue, and also to try to keep as small as possible any fixed charges like reconnection charges, customer charges and the like. It was the typical attorney general position on those issues. It was nothing unusual.

- Q. All right, sir. Did you have a sense that the parties were in basic agreement on rate design at the time you started drafting on May the 4th?
- A. I don't know about when I started drafting, but as the day came to an end, we did reach an agreement on it, yes.
- Q. How about rate allocation, what was your understanding with regard to the settlement of the parties' positions on rate allocation? Do you

have a sense of that term? 1 I don't. Tell me what you mean by 2 3 that. That's interesting because Mr. Riggs 0. 4 used it this morning, and I picked it up. I thought 5 there were only two issues in a rate case, rate 6 design and revenue. And he informed me there's a 7 creature called rate allocation. 8 Tell me what Kendrick meant by that. 9 Α. I do not know, so you're --10 0. I include --11 Α. MR. KAPLAN: I think he may have meant 12 what you just understood to be rate design. 13 I include probably the content of rate 14 Α. allocation and rate design. 1.5 All right, sir. So am I also correct 16 that there was a fundamental agreement on the revenue 17 18 side of the gas component? That is correct. 19 Α. 20 Okay. So by the time you started Q. 21 drafting, what was unresolved between LG&E/KU and the interveners? 22 Well, revenue requirement on the 23 electric side. When I first started drafting, that 24 25 was unresolved. There were some sort of experimental

rates and some rates that applied to a few customers, 1 and I seem to recall that the attorney general was 2 3 having a little bit of difficulty with some of the issues in that. I wasn't talking to the attorney 4 general about those issues, so I can't remember for 5 sure. But it seems to me as though issues -- for 6 7 example, there was a -- if I'm not mistaken, there was a time of use pilot -- time of use rate that was 8 9 ultimately agreed to. And the division of energy 10 were the people we were talking to a lot about that. And I have some recollection that the attorney 11 12 general was weighing in and had a position, and I 13 just don't remember what it was. Okay. At the time you started 14 0. drafting on May the 4th, had you come to an 15 16 understanding that there was an agreement with the attorney general or had been an agreement on revenue 17 requirement on electric sometime prior to May the 18 19 4th? I don't know. 20 Α. 21 Okay. 0. 22 Α. I just don't recall. All right. You don't recall any such 23 0. 24 agreement? Well --25 Α.

1 Q. Or understanding. Agreement is a 2 strong term. I understood, as we left the 3 Α. 4 commission on the 4th, that the attorney general 5 announced that his office had agreed with the revenue requirement numbers that ultimately ended up in the 6 7 settlement agreement. All right. 8 0. 9 I don't think there was any agreement prior to late that afternoon. I -- I just don't 10 remember that. 11 Okay. And prior to leaving on the 12 13 4th, you were under the impression that there was an 14 agreement? 15 Α. Yes, I was. 16 Okay. And tell me what was the basis 0. 17 of your understanding. 18 Α. Someone on the KU/LG&E team told me. All right. By way of example, did 19 0. 20 Mr. Howard or Ms. Blackford communicate to you 21 agreement? 22 Α. Not to me, no, no. 23 So as I'm envisioning this, you were a 0. 24 scrivener, Mr. Watt? 25 That's pretty much what I was doing on Α.

1 the afternoon of the 4th --2 All right, sir. Q. 3 -- and into the evening, as a matter Α. 4 of fact. 5 But it was communicated by your Q. colleagues and teammates that there was an agreement 6 7 on revenue requirement. Α. That's correct. 8 9 So as you left on the 4th, were you 10 thinking that there was agreement on the rate cases, 11 on all issues between the interveners and LG&E and KU? 12 13 Α. You know, it seems to me as though there were still some details that needed to be 14 15 ironed out with some of the large use customers, for 16 example, North American Stainless. But in terms of 17 the major issues in the rate case, I felt that late 18 on the afternoon of the 4th the major issues were settled. 19 20 All right, sir. Did you continue to 21 work through the evening on your settlement 22 agreement, May the 4th? 23 Yes, until we got to the point that we Α.

had completed the portions of the agreement as to

those issues that we knew were settled, yes.

24

- Q. All right. May the 5th, next day, which would have been Wednesday.
  - A. Yes, sir.

1.3

- Q. Okay. Tell me what transpired from your viewpoint on Wednesday, the 5th.
- another session among all the parties in the small hearing room. And we were all in that hearing room, and we were really just talking about details. And I can't remember -- I think maybe Dennis Howard was not in the room, but as we were having discussions he came into the room and leaned over and said something that none of us could hear to Betsy Blackford, or maybe her phone rang. I can't remember. But at any rate I do remember she said, "Hold the phone." She said, "We can't go any further." And in essence she said they were not authorized to agree to a settlement of the rate case.

And I think immediately thereafter, pursuant to a schedule that had been established by someone, I would assume the commission, we all assembled in the -- in the main hearing room. And the chairman wanted to know the progress of the settlement discussions, and I believe that Kendrick Riggs stood up and -- and reported the status of the

settlement negotiations.

And after that my recollection is that Richard Raff stood up and stated that he had heard on the radio, either an interview or a statement by Mr. Stumbo that he felt that there was collusion ongoing in the settlement of the rate case and that there were -- I believe also he mentioned ex parte contacts had taken place.

And the chairman thereupon went around the room and asked counsel for all of the parties to state whether or not counsel was aware of any such collusion or improper contact, and all of the parties stated that they were not aware. Dennis Howard, from the attorney general's office, did qualify his response by stating that he was not in every single meeting, so he could only speak to the ones that he attended.

Thereafter, we adjourned for more settlement discussions, and to try to figure out what to do if the attorney general decided not to participate in all or part of the settlement.

- Q. Okay. What date -- what day are you speaking of now, the 5th?
  - A. I think this was the 5th, yes.
- O. Let me refresh your memory and walk

back through a couple of things because you covered a 1 2 lot of territory here. On the 5th, when you come back, as I understand what you're telling us, shortly 3 before you were convened back in session by the 4 chairman, Ms. Blackford announced that the attorney 5 general would not agree to the revenue requirement 6 numbers. Am I correct? 7 That's correct. 8 Α. 9 Ο. Okay. I don't know that she necessarily 10 Α. mentioned the revenue requirement number 11 specifically, but the message was she was not on 12 board with the settlement. 13 All right. And "she" being, she was 14 0. representing the attorney general, and that the 15 attorney general was no longer on board. 16 That was my understanding. 17 Α. Okay. That's diametrically different 18 Ο. 19 than what you left with as an impression on the evening of the 4th, correct? 20 That's correct. 21 Α. Okay. As you left on the evening of 22 Ο. the 4th, you thought there was an understanding 23 24 amongst all of the parties. 25 Α. I did.

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Okay. Now, you were not part of the
             Q.
 1
     negotiations. The only way that was communicated to
 2
     you on the 4th was by your colleagues, correct?
 3
                     That's correct.
 4
             Α.
                     So you had no way of being able to
 5
             Q.
     tell what Ms. Blackford's authority or Mr. Howard's
 6
 7
     authority was from the attorney general.
 8
     correct?
                     That is correct.
 9
             Α.
10
             Ο.
                     Okay. Do you recall on the 5th the
11
     attorney general coming to the Public Service
12
     Commission?
13
             Α.
                    Mr. Stumbo?
                    Yeah.
14
             Q.
15
             Α.
                     Yes, I do.
                     Okay. And do you recall on the 5th --
16
             0.
17
     this would have been the same day Ms. Blackford made
     her announcement there was no agreement -- that there
18
19
     was a meeting sometime after that announcement
     between Mr. Riggs, Mr. McCall, the attorney general,
20
     Ms. Blackford and Mr. Howard?
21
                     I recall having been told about that,
22
             Α.
23
     yes.
                    All right. And again, I know you're
24
             0.
     in the drafting status here and not participating in
25
```

```
all the discussions. But do you have a recollection
 1
     of that having occurred, this meeting and it being
 2
     communicated to you that this meeting occurred?
 3
                     Yes, I do have that recollection.
             Α.
 4
             Q.
                     Do you recall who told you about the
 5
     meeting?
 6
                     I don't, no.
 7
             Α.
                     Okay. Do you have any recollection of
 8
             Q.
     the content of the meeting, what was said in it?
 9
                     I do not.
10
             Α.
                     Fair enough. Now, after -- well, you
11
             Ο.
     do remember the attorney general coming over, I take
12
     it, then.
13
                    I think he came over that afternoon --
14
             Α.
                     Okay.
15
             0.
                     -- or very late morning. He was not
16
             Α.
     there when Richard Raff stood up and announced what
17
     he had heard on the radio.
1.8
                     Okay. I'm getting ready to focus that
19
     for you. I think that that occurred on the 6th, not
20
21
     the 5th.
                     Okay.
22
             Α.
                     I would ask you to think about that.
23
             0.
     Based upon Mr. Raff's statement that he heard on the
24
     radio this morning, all right, remarks by the
25
```

attorney general and reference that first thing in the morning of the hearing, does that refresh your memory that Mr. Raff's colloquy where he asked folks if they knew anything about collusion ex parte occurred on the 6th, not the 5th?

- A. It easily could have been.
- Q. Fair enough.

- A. It easily could have been.
- Q. After the announcement by

  Ms. Blackford going back on record, do I take it that
  the interveners, LG&E, KU and the staff and the
  commissioners engaged in the hearing process for the
  remainder of that particular day? I believe it's the
  5th, but it's whatever the day was.

A. Well, I remember that the hearing recommenced. And I guess you're right, it probably was the 5th. And what I remember about the hearing having recommenced is that we put our witnesses on and they were cross-examined by the attorney general's folks, by Ms. Blackford and perhaps

Mr. Howard. And we cross-examined -- I believe it was three witnesses from the attorney general's office, maybe four. Personally, I cross-examined two of the attorney general's witnesses. I do remember that.

Okay. Now, was the rest of the 1 Ο, remainder of that day taken up with actual hearing 2 3 before the commission? The day that we had the hearing -- and 4 Α. 5 I'll accept your statement that it was the 5th -- I 6 think it did take until the end of the day. What do you recall --7 All right, sir. or what function were you serving in the evening? 8 9 Were you working the evening of the 5th? 1.0 Α. Well, we were -- the LG&E/KU team was 11 staying at a motel in Frankfort and had arranged for 12 the use of a meeting room. And after the hearing was 13 over, we went back there, although we may have had some discussions at the commission about settlement. 14 I just don't remember. 15 All right. And again, you were in the 16 0. 17 You were not participating in actual same role. negotiations. You were drafting? 18 That's correct. 19 Α. Okay. Were you physically located at 20 0. the PSC in a different room than the negotiations 21 22 were taking place in? 23 For the most part, yes. Α. The day of the 6th 24 All right. Q. Okay. 25 Mr. Raff comes in and makes his announcement about

remarks being made on the radio by the attorney 1 general. Do you have a vivid recollection of that? 2 3 Α. Oh, yes. You described in detail what Ο. 4 transpired after that. Do you have recognition of 5 Mr. Riggs also making some remarks after Mr. Raff's 6 remarks, the chairman's requesting to know if anybody 7 knew of such kind of activity, ex parte 8 communication? 9 10 Α. Yes. Mr. Riggs did make some remarks. I don't remember what they were, but he did. 11 12 Q. All right. Now, did the hearing 13 continue on after that exchange? I think we adjourned pretty shortly 14 Α. after that exchange for the purpose of resuming 15 16 settlement negotiations. All right, sir. And were the parties 17 0. there for the remainder of the 6th? 18 I think so. 19 Α. Okay. What was your understanding of 20 Ο. what the position of all the other interveners was as 21 of the 6th? Were they in agreement with LG&E and KU 22 on all issues as of -- as of the end of the day on 23 May the 6th? 24 I don't remember exactly when the 25 Α.

1 settlement negotiations were concluded, but the last 2 two parties, two groups of parties to reach agreement 3 were North American Stainless and the low income 4 organizations. Not because there were acrimonious 5 discussions, but rather because the issues were so 6 very complicated it took a long time to work them 7 out. 8 Were those concluded by the close of Ο. 9 business on the 6th, "close of business" being the 10 close of the negotiation session? 11 I just don't remember what date it 12 was. 13 All right. That would have been --Q. 14 Α. That would have been Thursday. 15 Thursday, yes, sir. Q. 16 I want to say that was when we Α. 17 concluded everything. All right, sir. My records indicate 18 Ο. 19 the next time the parties would have been together 20 was the hearing on May the 12th, six days later. 21 Α. Right. 22 Ο. Did you attend that hearing? I did. 23 Α. 24 All right, sir. Do you recall what Q. 25 you did on the rate cases in terms of work activity

between May the 6th and May the 12th?

A. I looked at the settlement agreement because everybody was supposed to sign it and have it completely executed by the 12th. And I think there might have been some final signatures that were done that morning right before the hearing started. I think I might have worked with -- strike that. That was a terrible statement.

I think I worked with the company representatives in connection with developing testimony to present about the settlement agreement, which the company did on the 12th.

- Q. So you were working on that between the 6th and the 12th?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Let me ask you, between

  April 28th and May the 12th, did you have any

  communication with any members of the staff of the

  Public Service Commission other than in the sessions

  that you've described?
- A. Nothing other than exchanging pleasantries.
- Q. All right. And did you have any communication with commission members about the rate cases from April 28th through May 12th other than in

the process of the hearing?

A. No.

Q. Okay. May the 12th, tell me what occurs.

A. Well, as I said, I seem to recall that we gathered in the hearing room No. 2. And we had to wrap up a few final signatures, it seems to me. The document was executed in counterpart and then, you know, the pages assembled. We had that session, got it finalized. Somebody was attending to getting copies made and the like. We then began the hearing during which I think our only witness was Mike Beer, and we put Mike on the witness stand to have him testify that he believed that the settlement agreement was a reasonable settlement and that it should be approved by the commission.

Now, understand the settlement agreement. It was a stipulation -- combination stipulation and settlement agreement. The attorney general did not agree with the revenue requirement for -- on the electric side and did not agree, I believe, on the depreciation rates. And I think those are the only two things with which the attorney general did not agree. So it was a stipulation among all the other

```
parties on those two issues, but not a settlement
1
2
     agreement.
                    All right. At the close of the
             Q.
3
     hearing on May the 12th, what was your understanding
4
     of the issues that the commission had to make a
5
     determination on?
6
                    Well, the revenue requirement on the
7
     electric side for both companies.
8
                    Okay. And anything else?
9
             Q.
             Α.
                    Excuse me?
10
                     They were reviewing the settlement
11
     agreement as a whole, were they not?
12
                     Yes, I'm sorry, they had to do that as
             Α.
13
14
     well.
                    Any other outstanding issues?
15
             Q.
                    Not that I recall.
16
             Α.
                    Okay. Now, did you have anything to
17
             Ο.
     do on the rate cases after May the 12th?
18
                     I participated in the drafting of LG&E
19
     and KU's briefs.
20
                    All right, sir. And when were they
21
     submitted; do you know?
22
                     I can't recall the -- I just don't
23
             Α.
24
     recall.
                    Fair enough. Do you recall in the
25
             Q.
```

```
1
     final order -- not final order -- the order of the
 2
     Public Service Commission?
                     I want to say around June 10th or so.
             Α.
 3
                     All right, sir. Sometime middle of
 4
             Ο.
 5
     June, toward the middle of June?
                     (Nods head up and down).
 6
                     Do I take it you had no contact about
 7
     the rate cases with any of the commissioners between
 8
     final presentation of testimony sometime on May the
 9
     12th and the issuance of the ruling in June?
10
                     I had a social contact with Mark David
11
     Goss in the end of May. And, of course, I shook his
12
     hand and asked him how he liked being a commissioner,
13
     because at that point he was still relatively new,
14
     and told him that I appreciated the way that he
15
     conducted the hearing.
16
17
                    All right, sir. Anything on the
             0.
     merits?
18
19
             Α.
                     No.
                     Okay. Anything else you remember of
20
             0.
21
     the conversation?
                     No, other than just pleasantries.
                                                         Ιt
22
             Α.
     was a social setting.
23
                     All right, sir. Now let me ask you
24
             Q .
25
     the same question with regard to staff.
```

I don't think I had contact with any 1 Α. staff member about LG&E or KU after May the 12th. 2 All right. So the only communication 3 Q. you had with either staff or commission member was 4 the exchange of pleasantries with Chairman Goss? 5 6 That's correct. Okav. And was that some sort of 7 0. Memorial Day event? 8 It happened to be Memorial Day 9 Α. weekend. Mr. Goss' wife and I serve on the board of 10 directors, with about 75 other people, of the 11 Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival. And it was at a 12 director's dinner for that organization where I saw 13 him. 14 All right, sir. In your time and 15 0. experience in these two rate cases, did you ever 16 witness what you thought was an ex parte 17 communication by any of the parties? 18 No. 19 Α. And while the term "collusion" is a 20 subjective term, at any time in your time and 21 experience in the two rate cases did you witness 22 anything that you thought was collusive behavior? 23 Α. No. 24 Okay. And let me finally ask you with 25 Q.

```
regard to the use of the term "inappropriate," which
1
     is also a subjective term, did you see or witness
2
     anything in your time and experience in the two rate
 3
     cases that you thought was inappropriate behavior?
 4
                     To the extent that the attorney
 5
             Α.
     general renigged on the settlement agreement, I felt
 6
     that that was inappropriate. But other than that, I
 7
     saw none.
 8
                     All right, sir. Are you familiar with
 9
             Ο.
     the case of Cowan versus LG&E?
10
                     Yes.
11
             Α.
                     Okay. And I take it you are thus
12
             Ο.
     familiar with the tenets regarding ex parte
13
     communication?
14
                     I am.
15
             Α.
                     All right. And how do you incorporate
16
     those tenets in your practice before the Public
17
18
     Service Commission?
                     I simply do not -- now you're talking
19
             Α.
20
     about my particular --
21
             Q.
                     Yes, sir.
22
                     My personal contact?
             Α.
23
             Ο.
                     Yes.
                    All right.
24
             Α,
                    And with specific reference to how you
25
             Q.
```

```
would have used those tenets and your understanding
1
     of them in this particular -- these two rate cases.
2
                    Well, I take a -- maybe an extreme
3
     approach. I make sure that I have as little contact
 4
     with members of the commission and its staff as I
5
     can. And when I do have a contact with those
 6
     persons, I make very sure that I do not talk about
7
     the substance, much less the merits of any proceeding
8
     in which I'm representing a party before the Public
9
     Service Commission.
10
                    Okay. And I trust you -- you
11
             Ο,
     conducted yourself that way with regard to these two
12
13
     rate cases.
                    Yes, sir.
14
             Α.
                    And with regard to your powers of
15
             0.
     observation, did you believe that the interveners and
16
     LG&E/KU team members also conducted themselves that
17
18
     way?
19
             Α.
                    Absolutely.
                                    Okay. That's all I
20
                    MR. GOLDBERG:
     have, Mr. Watt. Thanks much.
21
22
                    THE WITNESS: Okay.
                     (STATEMENT CONCLUDED AT 1:55 P.M.)
23
24
25
```

1 STATE OF KENTUCKY ) ( ) ( SS: 2 COUNTY OF JEFFERSON ) ( 3 4 I, ELLEN L. COULTER, Notary Public, State of Kentucky at Large, hereby certify that the 5 foregoing sworn statement was taken at the time and place stated in the caption; that the appearances 6 were as set forth in the caption; that prior to giving testimony the witness was first duly sworn by 7 me; that said testimony was taken down by me in stenographic notes and thereafter reduced under my supervision to the foregoing typewritten pages and 8 that said typewritten transcript is a true, accurate 9 and complete record of my stenographic notes so taken. 10 I further certify that I am not related by blood or marriage to any of the parties 11 hereto and that I have no interest in the outcome of captioned case. My commission as Notary Public expires 12 November 5, 2007. 13 Given dunder my hand this the 14 2005, at Louisville, 15 Kentucky. 16 17 18 ELLEN L. COULTER NOTARY PUBLIC 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

1	I, the undersigned, ROBERT WATT, do hereby		
2	certify that I have read the foregoing sworn		
3	statement, and that, to the best of my knowledge,		
4	said sworn statement is true and accurate, with the		
5	exception of the corrections, if any, listed on the		
6	errata sheet.		
7	Colect Ware		
8	Collect Ware		
9	ROBERT WATT		
10	ed		
11	Subscribed and sworn to before me this 72		
12	day of Systember, 2005.		
13			
14			
15			
16	NOTARY PUBLIC		
17			
18			
19	My commission expires $\frac{2-19-2008}{}$		
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

## COULTER REPORTING, LLC 101 EAST KENTUCKY STREET, SUITE 200 LOUISVILLE, KY 40203

# ERRATA SHEET

NAME Robert Watt DATE OF DEPOSITION July 28, 2005
After having read my deposition, I wish to make the following changes:
Page 21 Line 14 Change "goal" should be "role" Reason for change
Page 42 Line 6 Change "renigged" should be "reneged" Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change
Page Line Change Reason for change

31/7 31/11 31/20 32/12 33/1 33/19 33/22 analysis [3] 7/6 7/7 7/9 and -- [1] 28/25 33/24 35/1 38/20 38/24 42/5 authority [2] 31/6 31/7 - [80] Andrea [1] 9/25 authorized [1] 28/17 announced [3] 26/5 30/5 32/17 announcement [4] 31/18 31/19 33/9 aware [2] 29/11 29/13 a -- [4] 3/20 12/21 25/7 43/3 away [1] 23/10\_ 34/25 able [1] 31/5 another [2] 22/25 28/7 about [43] 4/12 5/14 8/12 8/14 8/21 9/7 answers [2] 9/22 9/24 back [6] 14/1 30/1 30/3 30/4 33/10 34/13 9/8 9/13 9/18 10/6 10/15 10/22 10/25 12/8 anticipating [1] 13/13 Based [1] 32/24 14/5 14/20 14/24 15/14 16/6 16/9 17/15 any [40] 7/23 8/11 8/20 8/20 9/2 9/7 basic [1] 23/17 17/21 18/22 21/15 23/20 23/23 25/5 25/10 12/5 14/4 14/5 14/11 14/11 14/14 15/4 basis [2] 20/25 26/16 28/9 31/22 32/5 32/23 33/4 33/17 34/14 15/9 15/10 16/13 16/14 16/15 18/5 18/17 **be [16]** 11/17 12/11 13/5 13/21 15/5 16/2 34/25 37/11 37/24 40/7 41/2 41/11 42/20 18/21 18/22 23/7 23/12 25/23 26/9 28/14 43/7 16/3 17/11 18/1 18/10 19/9 21/17 24/13 28/16 29/11 32/8 37/17 37/18 37/23 39/15 Absolutely [2] 14/22 43/19 27/14 38/16 41/9 40/8 41/1 41/18 41/21 43/8 44/10 became [3] 6/2 16/24 19/24 accept [1] 34/5 any -- [1] 8/20 acceptable [2] 22/2 22/6 because [8] 9/10 9/14 24/4 30/1 36/4 anybody [1] 35/7 anyone [2] 14/12 17/14 accurate [1] 44/8 36/5 37/3 40/14 been [17] 4/7 4/9 15/19 16/9 17/20 19/3 anything [8] 11/18 33/4 39/9 39/17 acrimonious [1] 36/4 25/17 28/2 28/20 31/17 31/22 33/6 33/8 across [1] 19/22 40/17 40/20 41/23 42/3 Action [1] 16/22 apologize [1] 13/23 36/13 36/14 36/19 37/5 been -- [1] 36/13 active [1] 11/7 apparent [1] 6/3 actively [1] 4/10 Beer [1] 38/12 appearances [1] 44/5 before [8] 4/14 4/21 23/7 30/4 34/3 37/6 activities [2] 7/13 12/14 appeared [1] 21/17 42/17 43/9 activity [4] 7/4 22/5 35/8 36/25 applicant [1] 16/3 began [6] 4/17 4/25 5/5 20/5 20/10 actual [4] 12/17 12/22 34/2 34/17 applicants [1] 16/6 actually [1] 6/16 addition [1] 11/25 application [1] 7/12 38/11 begun [1] 7/1 applications [2] 11/13 12/15 address [1] 3/13 applied [1] 25/1 behalf [1] 20/17 behavior [2] 41/23 42/4 addressed [1] 12/12 appreciated [1] 40/15 behind [1] 19/19 addressing [1] 12/11 approach [1] 43/4 being [7] 20/24 30/14 31/5 32/2 35/1 adjourn [1] 19/12 approved [1] 38/16 36/9 40/13 adjourned [2] 29/18 35/14 approximately [1] 3/6 believe [8] 20/4 20/14 28/24 29/7 33/13 **ADJUSTMENT [2]** 1/5 1/10 April [12] 11/18 12/18 12/21 13/6 14/4 advocates [1] 17/10 15/9 17/15 17/25 18/15 19/4 37/17 37/25 33/21 38/22 43/16 are [15] 3/16 3/18 3/20 5/17 7/13 8/7 believed [2] 16/17 38/14 Aegon [1] 2/9 after [13] 11/5 11/21 29/2 31/19 32/11 bellsouth.net [1] 1/24 8/16 8/24 9/24 15/1 15/23 29/22 38/23 33/9 34/12 35/5 35/6 35/13 35/15 39/18 42/9 42/12 besides [1] 11/19 best [2] 7/18 16/17 area [3] 3/21 4/11 17/20 Betsy [2] 15/12 28/13 after -- [1] 32/11 argue [1] 23/11 afternoon [5] 20/8 26/10 27/1 27/18 between [12] 12/16 14/2 17/1 18/18 **Arlington [1]** 17/19 19/5 24/21 27/11 31/20 37/1 37/13 37/16 32/14 arm [1] 22/22 40/8 afternoon -- [1] 32/14 around [2] 29/9 40/3 **beyond [1]** 9/14 **bit [2]** 5/1 25/3 again [7] 9/18 11/5 11/16 14/20 17/20 arranged [1] 34/11 31/24 34/16 arrived [1] 18/7 Blackford [10] 15/12 16/9 17/14 26/20 agree [6] 13/6 28/17 30/6 38/21 38/22 as [49] as -- [1] 19/23 28/13 30/5 31/17 31/21 33/10 33/20 38/25 agreed [3] 20/11 25/9 26/5 ask [7] 8/6 10/10 15/7 32/23 37/16 40/24 Blackford's [1] 31/6 blood [1] 44/10 agreement [35] 19/25 20/2 20/5 20/14 board [3] 30/13 30/16 41/10 20/19 20/20 21/1 21/5 23/17 23/22 24/17 asked [9] 5/4 5/7 6/6 6/13 6/20 19/11 **both [3]** 5/13 5/19 39/8 25/16 25/17 25/24 26/1 26/7 26/9 26/14 29/10 33/3 40/13 briefs [1] 39/20 26/21 27/6 27/10 27/22 27/24 31/18 35/22 asking [1] 9/7 Brown [2] 2/9 20/15 aspect [2] 5/9 17/21 36/2 37/2 37/11 38/15 38/18 38/18 38/20 business [3] 3/13 36/9 36/9 aspects [1] 6/3 39/2 39/12 42/6 but [29] 4/22 6/1 9/15 10/19 10/24 12/5 agreement -- [1] 31/18 assembled [2] 28/22 38/9 12/24 13/11 13/21 14/24 15/5 16/25 19/8 agreements [1] 21/3 assigned [1] 5/23 21/20 22/23 23/21 25/6 27/5 27/16 28/11 ahead [1] 21/2 assignment [1] 5/25 28/14 30/12 32/1 33/14 35/11 36/1 36/5 Alexandria [1] 17/19 assume [1] 28/21 39/1 42/7 assuming [2] 9/6 9/21 all [87] allocation [4] 23/23 23/25 24/8 24/15 at [28] 3/6 4/1 5/16 7/23 14/2 14/12 along [3] 5/9 6/2 21/7 15/24 18/1 18/7 19/20 21/8 21/25 23/5 calculations [1] 7/7 already [3] 11/19 20/11 20/13 23/18 25/14 28/14 34/11 34/14 34/20 37/2 also [9] 20/20 21/20 21/24 23/11 24/16 call [1] 12/9 39/3 40/14 41/12 41/21 43/23 44/4 44/5 called [1] 24/8 29/7 35/6 42/2 43/17 44/14 although [1] 34/13 attend [1] 36/22 calls [1] 16/1 came [4] 5/13 23/21 28/12 32/14 attended [1] 29/17 always [1] 9/13 can [5] 7/18 11/18 13/6 16/18 43/6 attending [1] 38/10 am [6] 18/16 24/16 30/7 31/7 42/15 can't [8] 12/4 15/19 17/18 25/5 28/10 44/10 attention [1] 5/25 attorney [30] 15/13 16/10 16/19 23/4 28/14 28/16 39/23 American [6] 6/21 6/24 16/24 17/2 27/16 caps [1] 16/21 23/5 23/8 23/11 23/14 25/2 25/4 25/11 36/3 caption [2] 44/5 44/6 among [2] 28/7 38/25 25/17 26/4 29/14 29/20 30/5 30/15 30/16 amongst [1] 30/24 captioned [1] 44/11

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